<center>**Remarks**</center>

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 1, 11, 15, 18, 21, and 24 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled or

added. Therefore, claims 1-30 are presented for examination.

<center>**35 U.S.C. §112 Rejection**</center>

Claims 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 15 has

been amended to obviate this rejection.

<center>**35 U.S.C. §103(a) Rejection**</center>

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the

Admitted Prior Art (APA) from the Application background in view of Belkin (U.S. Patent

No. 6,766,349). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over the APA in

view of Belkin.

Belkin discloses a mechanism for obtaining a thread from, and returning a thread to, a

thread pool without attaching and detaching. (Belkin at page 2, lines 26-28) Belkin further

discloses using more than one thread pool. Each thread pool is customized for one or more

particular types of service. (Belkin at page 3, lines 49-53) A pool includes a plurality of

characteristics. One of the characteristics is a maximum queue time out. The maximum

queue time out specifies the maximum period of time that a request can wait for a thread

from the pool before being timed out. (Belkin at page 7, lines 7-10 and lines 29-35)

Claim 1 recites, in part, that when the yielding count expires <u>the first thread</u>

<u>relinquishes its remaining quantum time to another thread in the processing queue.</u>

(Emphasis Added) Applicant submits that Belkin does not disclose or suggest relinquishing remaining quantum time to another thread in the processing queue. The Examiner asserts that "Belkin teaches a system that specifies the maximum period of time that a request can wait" (Office Action mailed September 21, 2005 at page 3, point 7); however, nowhere does Belkin disclose or suggest relinquishing remaining quantum time to another thread, as recited by claim 1. Therefore, for the above reason, claim 1 is patentable over Belkin in view of APA. Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and include additional features. Therefore, claims 2-10 are also patentable over the Belkin in view of APA.

Claims 11, 15, 18, 21, and 24 each recite, in part, that when the yielding count expires the first thread relinquishes its remaining quantum time to another thread in the processing queue. (Emphasis Added) Similar to the discussion above, neither Belkin nor the APA disclose or suggest such a feature. As a result, claims 11, 15, 18, 21, and 24 are patentable over the Belkin in view of APA for the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. As claims 12-14, 16-17, 19-20, 22-23, and 25-30 depend from claims 11, 15, 18, 21, and 24, respectively, and include additional features, these claims are also patentable over the Belkin in view of APA.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.
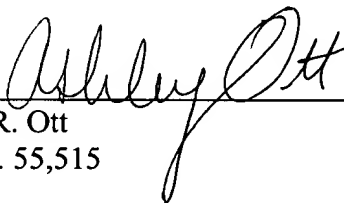
Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: <u>December 19, 2005</u>   _____

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